



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Kansas

NEWS RELEASE

Eric Melgren, U.S. Attorney

Contact: Kena Rice

(316) 269-6481

Headquarters

1200 Epic Center
301 N. Main
Wichita, Kansas 67202
(316)269-6481
FAX (316)269-6484

Topeka Office

444 Quincy
Topeka, Kansas 66683

Kansas City Office

500 State Avenue
Suite 360
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

News releases are available at www.usdoj.gov/usao/ks/

May 24, 2004

TOPEKA, KANSAS, MAN SENTENCED FOR CARRYING A FIREARM DURING A DRUG TRAFFICKING CRIME

TOPEKA, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **De'Marcus Jermaine White, 25, Topeka, Kansas, was sentenced today by Judge Julie A. Robinson to five years in federal prison, without parole, to be followed by three years of supervised release.**

Melgren said that White entered a guilty plea on February 23, 2004, to one count of carrying a firearm during a drug trafficking crime.

Melgren stated that White admitted at his plea that on May 9, 2003, he was stopped by Topeka Police Department officers for a traffic violation after officers observed White fail to stop at a stop sign in Topeka. Officers searched White and found a pistol and plastic baggies containing marijuana and crack cocaine in his pants. The officers searched the vehicle and found additional marijuana and a set of scales. White admitted that he possessed with the intent to distribute approximately 26.26 grams (approximately .93 ounce) of marijuana and approximately 4.44 grams (approximately .16 ounce) of crack cocaine. White further admitted that he possessed the pistol in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Topeka Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Greg Hough in this prosecution.